DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 174 600 SP 014 503

TITLE	Keeping in Touch with Parents: The Teacher's Best Friend (Mainstreaming Training Series) 1977.
INSTITUTION	National Education Association, Washington, D.C. Project on Utilization of Inservice Education R & D Outcomes.
SPONS AGENCY	National Inst. of Education (DHEW), Washington, D.C.
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DESCRIPTORS	*Elementary Secondary Education; *Inservice Teacher Education; *Learning Modules; Mainstreaming; Multimedia Instruction; Parent Participation; *Parent Teacher Cooperation; *Skill Development; Validated Programs

ABSTRACT

The inservice education learning module described here focuses on developing effective communication between parents and teachers with the intent of imparting knowledge and skills to teachers which help them to involve parents in the education of their children. The kit speaks to the problems of the special needs child but is designed to be useful for any parent-teacher conferencing. Additional information is provided on the purposes and content of the module as well as activities and resources involved. A critique, history of development, and ordering information are also included. (DS)

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DESCRIPTION OF TEACHER INSERVICE EDUCATION MATERIALS

SUMMARY INFORMATION

Title: Keeping in Touch With Parents: The Teacher's Best Friend (Mainstreaming Training Series) 1977

Publication Date(s): Copyright, 1977

Intended Users: Inservice and preservice teachers, parents administrators

Grade Level(s): Not specified; applicable to any level

Number: Group

Primary Focus: This multimedia kit, one of a series on mainstreaming, focuses on effective communication between parents and teachers. It hopes to impart knowledge and skills to teachers which will help them to involve parents in the education of their children.

School subject(s) and/or inservice topic(s) covered:

The inservice topic dealt with in the series is mainstreaming. This kit speaks to the relationship between the teacher and the parents of the special needs child.

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What participant does in using the materials:

The material is well suited to an inserivce workshop setting, though it may be used successfully in teacher training programs, parent-teacher workshops or for individual study. There are two program designs offered: one for a one-hour workshop; one for a three-hour workshop. With either format, filmstrip viewing and group discussion are participant activities.

Resources:

The program package contains a 27-minute filmstrip and audio cassette; a soft-cover text titled "Keeping in Touch with Parents: The Teacher's Best Friend;"; a Leader's Guide with instructions for program implementation; the filmstrip script; and, pages to be copied as a Participant's Manual.

Describer critique:

This is a most intriguing, even delightful, presentation. The filmstrip is presented in cartoon illustrations, which are very clever and quite funny. Audience interest and involvement are almost guaranteed.

SP 014503

SE 53 (CM) Parent-Teacher Relations, (SE) Least Restrictive Environment TD

1.0 PURPOSES:

Rationale

As part of a series of workshop materials on mainstreaming, this program focuses on a topic which the developers perceive as "critical to success in implementing programs which provide the least restrictive educational setting for ALL children and which are in compliance with Public Law 94-142."

Goals and Objectives

The program developers have identified specific objectives for participants in a "Keeping in Touch with Parents" workshop. These objectives relate to the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to effect positive parent-teacher communication. The objectives are:

KNOWLEDGE: To understand the role of parents in their child's education.

To learn factors contributing to successful parent conferences.

To understand the elements of effective shared communication.

To learn ways to provide indirect communication to parents.

To learn principles for changing the child's academic or social behavior.

SKILLS: To develop skills in designing and implementing social and academic behavior change programs.

To develop skills in talking, listening, "reading", and sharing in verbal and non verbal communication.

To develop skills for conducting successful parent conferences.

To develop skills for assisting parents in implementing home instructional programs.

ATTITIDES: To become more aware of the need for parental involvement in the educational process.

2.0 CONTENT — Scope and Sequencing of Topics:

1) The kit contains a filmstrip/cassette set with running time of 27 minutes. The first part of the cassette is the Introduction, and it is meant to be listened to before beginning the filmstrip.

2) Leader's Guide with complete instructions for program design, and detailed step-by-step directions for two alternative types of workshops. (37pp.)

3) Participants' Manual, 18 pages (in the back of the Leader's Guide) which are to be reproduced in the quantity needed. Charts, worksheets and forms are included.

4) The text, Keeping in Touch with Parents, 113 pp. The book is soft covered and contains the same cartoons used in the filmstrip, though the text is denser. One copy is provided with each workshop kit, though additional copies may be ordered.

3.0 ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES INVOLVED IN USE OF PRODUCT

3.1 Description of main inservice activities:

Detailed instructions are provided for both one-hour and three-hour workshops. The main activity for either format is viewing the filmstrip, in its three parts, and discussing the content after each part. The three-hour session which focuses on skill-building, allows for more discussion, and role-play and problem-solving activities.

3.2 Help given in use of product:

The Leader's Guide provides the group instructor with explicit instructions for implementing the program. A bibliography for teachers and parents is provided in the back of the Guide.

4.0 EVALUATION OF TEACHER INSERVICE LEARNING

No formal tests or evaluation instruments are included with the product. Successful completion of small group tasks (3 hr. workshop) should, however, help participants determine what they have learned from the program. Also, a follow-up question and answer section is included in the Participant's Manual.

5.0 ORDERING INFORMATION

5.1 Resources required/recommended for implementing product:

Equipment needs include: a filmstrip projector, an audio cassette player and a screen. A duplicating machine will be needed to copy the Participants' Manual (provided in the back of the Leader's Guide). Time needed will depend on the format selected.

5.2 Distributor name/address:

Teaching Resources Corp.
100 Boylston Street
Boston, MA 02116

617-357-8446

5.3 Components/approximate costs:

Component	Purchase	Rental	No. Req.	Reusable
KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH PARENTS: The Teacher's Best Friends (#96-008)	$49.95	No	1	Yes

1 package containing:
1) filmstrip
2) audio cassette
3) text
4) Leader's Guide

Other programs in the series:

The Public Law Supporting Mainstreaming	$49.95	(#96-009)
Individualized Educational Programming	$49.95	(#96.013)

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6.0 HISTORY OF DEVELOPMENT

6.1 Identification of the developer:

The Mainstreaming Training series editor is Thomas N. Fairchild, Ph.D (School Psychology). Dr. Fairchild is presently an Assistant Professor of Guidance and Counseling and Coordinator of the School Psychology Training Program at the Univ.-ersity of Idaho.

6.2 How developed and when:

This program was authored by Leatha M. Bennett, Ph.D. in Psychology with emphasis in Applied Behavior Analysis; and Dr. Ferris Henson, Ph.D. in Special Education. The product was based on their experience and research. Cartoon illustrations were drawn by Danial B. Fairchild. The program was copyrighted in 1977.

6.3 Evidence of effectiveness with users:

The materials have been edited and revised on the basis of comment by educational consultants who have strong experience in special education training and in teaching special needs children.

DESCRIBER CRITIQUE

Appropriateness / adaptability / technical quality:

The placement of this program in a mainstreaming series seems to unnecessarily limit its uses, for the skills it teaches are appropriate for all parent-teacher conferencing. The technical quality of the program is excellent: it is well-written and its cartoons, in a delightfully funny way, bring home the authors' ideas.

Content accuracy/social fairness/community acceptance issues:

The developers exhibit social fairness in their work: races, minorities and sexes are equally represented. The material is not controversial.

Overall summary/comment:

The program is extremely "easy to watch". The cartoons used in both the text and the filmstrip, though somewhat outrageous, are funny and engaging. Likewise, the program content is strong and well-put. Some very practical ideas about effective parent-teacher communication are given. The program format: viewing, discussion, viewing, discussion, should help to ensure participant involvement.